

**THE USE OF ONLINE LEARNING SITE (WWW.BABEL.COM) IN  
TEACHING VOCABULARY FOR SECOND GRADE OF JUNIOR HIGH  
SCHOOL STUDENTS**

**PAPER**

*Submitted as Partial Fulfillment for Getting Strata One (S<sub>1</sub>)*



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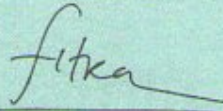
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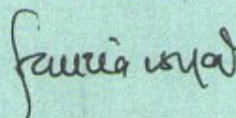
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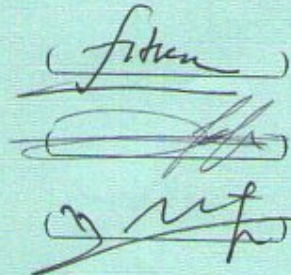
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## ABSTRAK

**Syafitri, Melsi. 2014. "The Use of Online Learning Site(www.Babbel.com) in Teaching Vocabulary for Second Grade of Junior High School Students".Makalah. Padang. Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris. Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni. UNP**

Makalah ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan bagaimana cara pengajaran *vocabulary* dengan menggunakan *online learning site*. Siswa SMP sering menemukan kesulitan dalam menguasai *vocabulary*. Hal ini disebabkan oleh penggunaan dan pemilihan media yang kurang menarik dari guru. *Vocabulary* adalah salah satu elemen penting yang harus dikuasai oleh siswa dalam sebuah bahasa, termasuk bahasa Inggris. Salah satu media yang dapat membantu siswa dalam meningkatkan penguasaan *vocabulary* adalah *online learning site*(www.babbel.com).

*Babbel.com site* adalah salah satu situs belajar secara online yang bisa membantu siswa dalam belajar bahasa. Situs ini memberikan kesempatan kepada siswa untuk belajar beragam bahasa, salah satunya adalah bahasa Inggris. Belajar dengan Babbel tidak membuat siswa merasa seperti sedang melakukan tugas tapi bermain. Babbel memberikan latihan berupa melengkapi kalimat dan mencocokkan gambar dengan kata sehingga sangat baik digunakan untuk pengajaran *vocabulary*. Kalimat yang digunakan cukup sederhana dan mudah dipahami oleh siswa SMP. Cara mengakses Babbel adalah dengan cara mendaftarkan e-mail terlebih dahulu, kemudian memilih bahasa yang akan dipelajari. Siswa akan diminta untuk mengerjakan latihan sesuai dengan instruksi. Mereka tidak akan mencapai ketahap berikutnya sebelum memilih jawaban yang benar pada tahap tersebut. Pada tahap akhir siswa diberikan perolehan nilai dari hasil tes tersebut.

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The Writer

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background of the Problem**

English is an International language because it is a main factor for people to communicate with others in the world. In Indonesia, English is learned as a foreign language and becomes an important subject to be passed from elementary up to college. Even, every student from elementary to senior high school will find this subject tested in every final examination.

In learning English, there are some components that students should be aware of, one of them is vocabulary. It is an element directly linking to the four skills such as speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students will not be able to speak, listen, read or write well in English if they lack of vocabulary as it is needed to produce sentences when delivering ideas. As students have a large bank of vocabularies in their mind, it is easier for them to catch the meanings and deliver their ideas.

Also, vocabulary is one of the main components of language that can make students better in four skills. Without grammar, one can say little, but without vocabularies, they cannot say anything. To master the skills means to master the vocabulary. Students tend to get low score in English if they are bad in vocabulary. Students' ability in using word correctly is their passport to have good comprehension in English,

too. Large vocabulary helps students to express their ideas precisely in communication. That is why vocabulary becomes one of the most important components of English.

In the 2013 English curriculum, there is no special meeting that discusses about vocabulary. It is learned when there are some difficult words are found in a text or conversation. As the result, students are not given the chance to explore their vocabulary because there is no special exercise for testing vocabulary mastery. Meanwhile, vocabulary mastery also has the important role that can link the four skills to the real interaction in English. So, students who have large vocabulary will get easy to respond in the daily conversation.

There are some possible causes of the problem that are faced by students, especially junior high school students in mastery vocabulary. The first cause is about the level of vocabulary. Sometimes the words that given to the students are not based on the students' level. Even though they know the meaning but they do not know how to use it in a sentence. It is because the words are rarely used in their daily conversation, in other word it is called with low frequency vocabulary, for example the word *adequate*. The word *adequate* is not relevant for junior high school. It is a word that used by college students. Meanwhile, the teacher can use the proper words to interest the students that occur in a high frequency. As stated by Nation (in Nunan, 2005:122) that the teacher should facilitate vocabulary learning by teaching students' useful words to help students'

figure out meanings on their own. For junior high school students, the teacher can use the word *enough*. This word is high frequency vocabulary. They will be familiar with the word *enough* than *adequate*. It also stated by Wharthon (2005:32) that tasks which learners recognize as relevant to their reasons for studying English are, particularly motivating. That is why the teacher needs to consider about the level of the vocabulary.

The second cause is about how to arrange the words to be a good sentence. They know some words but they do not know how to make it in a sentence. This is the common problem that is found around the students. For example, they know the word *I* for *Saya* and *book* for *buku*. When they want to say *my book* some of the students say *book I*. This problem is rarely found in the classroom. Meanwhile their vocabulary mastery and ability in using the word correctly and effectively can be the best way for getting information.

The third cause is about lack of practice. In the classroom, students only have some exercises about the four skills. For example, the teacher gives a test about reading skill and there will be some questions around twenty. Poorly, there are only two questions that related to the vocabulary mastery. It means students do not have much chance to test their vocabulary mastery.

The last cause is about the use of media. The use of media in increasing vocabulary mastery also needs to be aware. Based on what found in the classroom, some vocabulary is given by writing it in the white

board and then the teacher tells the meaning of the words. This way cannot activate students' background knowledge. For example, the teacher writes the word *boat* in the white board. They know that *boat* is for travelling in the water but they do not know that *boat* is different with *ship*. Even though *boat* and *ship* have the same function-for traveling in the water- however they are different. *Boat* is the small one and *ship* is the big one. They only can imagine it. This way will not make the students remember the word for long time memory. It will be temporary in their mind and forget soon. Willingham(2009) says students remember everything that is on television and forget what lecture or explain. It is because of visual media helps students retain concepts and ideas. That is why the teacher needs to consider about the use of media for increasing students' vocabulary.

One of media that can be used in the classroom is computer. Nowadays, computer is not an unusual thing for students any more. They use computer for playing games and searching for some sources about their subject. Also, they can use computer to find online learning site via internet access. The use of online learning as a media in increasing students' vocabulary is one of the best way that can be used by the teacher for junior high school students especially for second grade students. They can do exercise that can increase their vocabulary mastery. Babble.com site is one of online learning sites that can be used by the teacher in increasing students' vocabulary.

In Babbel.com site there are some languages targets to be learned, one of them is English. It offers sixteen themes lessons such as foods, drinks, animals, body and so on. So that, the teacher can choose one of them to be tested. There are some questions that have to be answered. Illustrative pictures that related to the questions will be appeared and it will be followed by sound clip.

When students are doing the test, it is better for them to use headset because it offers sound clip that can be listened clearer with headset. This can be increasing their listening skill. By using headset, they can listen and understanding the sentences easier. So that, they will listen the sound clearer. To know about students' understanding in answering the questions, the teacher can check the evaluation at the end of the test.

In addition, Babbel.com site can be access via website by using personal computer or multimedia room with a high-speed internet connection. It also can be access outside classroom which has been equipped with individual workstations. Luckily, this online learning is not only helping students to increase their vocabulary mastery but also their skills about listening, speaking, reading and writing.

However, teaching vocabulary by using this online learning site is only as a media that can be used to practice students' vocabulary. It cannot be apply in every meeting because there is no teaching vocabulary for junior high school students in English curriculum. This activity is only for alternative to increase their vocabulary mastery.

## **B. Limitation of the Problem**

Based on the background of the problem mentioned above, this paper is focused on the use of online learning site ([www.Babbel.com](http://www.Babbel.com)) in teaching vocabulary for the second grade of junior high school students.

## **C. Formulation of the Problem**

Based on the limitation of the problem above, the problem is formulated as follows question: “How does the teacher apply online learning site ([www.Babbel.com](http://www.Babbel.com)) in teaching vocabulary for the second grade of junior high school students?”

## **D. Purpose of the Paper**

The purpose of this paper is to explain the use of online learning site ([www.Babbel.com](http://www.Babbel.com)) in teaching vocabulary for the second grade of junior high school students.